

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and allowance of the subject application in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.

Claims 1-5, 9-10, 12-13, 15-19, and 21-24 are pending in the application, with claims 1, 4, 10, 13, 16, and 17 being independent. Applicant cancels claims 6-8 without prejudice, waiver, or disclaimer of the subject matter. Applicant canceled claims 11, 14, and 20 in a previous response. Applicant amends claims 1, 4, 5, 10, 13, 16, and 17 to further clarify features of the claimed subject matter. The original specification and drawings support these claim amendments at least at page 9 lines 16-18 and page 11 line 18 - page 12 line 9. These revisions introduce no new matter.

Claim Rejections 35 U.S.C. §102

Claims 1-8, 10-18, 20, and 22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Kimoto et al. (US 6,115,611) (“Kimoto”). Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection.

Claim 1

Without conceding the propriety of the stated rejections, and only to advance the prosecution of this application, Applicant amends independent claim 1 to clarify further features of the subject matter.

Independent claim 1 recites a computer-readable storage medium containing instructions that are executable by a computer to perform steps comprising:

sending a HyperText Transfer Protocol (HTTP) request that includes geographical coordinates of a mobile client in a header of the request;

receiving from a server, a geographically-dependent content that is customized to the geographical coordinates in the HTTP request, the geographically-dependent content including *a valid zone indicator indicating a range relative to the geographical coordinates in which the geographically-dependent content is displayed on the mobile client*, wherein *the range is customized in size by the server according to the geographical coordinates and the geographically-dependent content*;

comparing a current location of the mobile client to the valid zone indicator;

determining that the geographically-dependent content is no longer valid based on the comparing; and

sending a new HTTP request that includes new geographical coordinates of the mobile client in a header of the request.

Applicant respectfully submits that no such computer-readable storage medium is disclosed by Kimoto.

Kimoto is directed to a mobile communicating system, in which a mobile terminal has a position-information-detecting unit for transmitting position information to an information center (Abstract). The information center has an accumulating unit for accumulating information/services from many of the mobile terminals (Abstract).

Kimoto describes that each mobile terminal transmits position information of its own to the information center so as to utilize information or a service relating to the position information accumulated in the accumulating unit in the information center (column 16, lines 16-22). In this system, each of the mobile terminals transmits information or a service relating to the position information as up-load data to the information center through an up-load data transmitting unit, thereby accumulating and updating on occasion information or services in the information center (Kimoto, column 16, lines 23-33).

Kimoto further describes that each of the mobile terminals provides information or a service relating to position information as up-load data to the information center, thereby

accumulating and updating on occasion information or services in the information center in a learning fashion, so that the system has more information to share if the system is operated more frequently (col. 16, line 66 – col. 17, line 11).

The grounds of rejection of Applicant's claim 1 cite to Kimoto Fig. 67 as allegedly supplying a "mapped area zoned from total area shows that a zone is valid for selection" (Office Action page 2). The discussion of Fig. 67 in Col. 62, lines 6 - Col. 63, line 41 does not mention validity. For convenience, the relevant portions of Kimoto are reproduced below:

After that, the prefetching unit 66 automatically and successively (in the order indicated by encircled numbers in FIG. 67, for example) obtains the peripheral map data (Map3.gif, Map4.gif, . . .) from the terminal-side proxy 40B or the information center 5 in the similar manner, and makes the periphery map data be in a displayable state. Incidentally, in FIG. 67, each region indicated by an encircled number corresponds to one grid (one display region).

If the user drags a map being currently displayed on the display screen 63 to conduct a scrolling operation during execution of the prefetching process (Step A24 in FIG. 63), an event to the scrolling operation is transmitted from the Web browser 40A to the service program 401 (Step A25 in FIG. 63).

In the service program 401, the action detecting unit 64 detects this event by the input controlling unit 70 (refer to FIG. 59), calculates a scroll quantity by the scroll quantity calculating unit 71, and controls the display region 63 by the display controlling unit 72 according to a result of the calculation to re-display (scroll) the map data (Step A26 in FIG. 63).

At this time, the scroll quantity obtained by the above scroll quantity calculating unit 71 is supplied to the prefetching unit 66. The prefetching unit 66 converts the scroll quantity to map coordinates to judge a direction of the scrolling, and change the above prefetching procedure being currently executed (change the order of generating URL), thereby obtaining data which is promptly required (map data of a part that should be immediately displayed on the display screen 63 due to the scrolling operation) prior to the others (Step A27 in FIG. 63).

Assuming here that a dragging operation (scrolling) is conducted in a direction indicated by a thick arrow A in FIG. 64, for instance. In which case, the mobile terminal 4 will surely require map data [peripheral map data of meshed regions

(Map2.gif,Map3.gif,Map4.gif)] of a destination of the scrolling, as shown in FIG. 68. For this, in the prefetching unit 66, as shown in FIG. 69, the URL transmitting unit 74 checks a scroll quantity (a direction of the scrolling) (Step D1), after that, changes an original order of prefetching [matrix: refer to FIG. 70(a)] to as shown in FIG. 70(b), for example, to change (determine) the procedure such as to demand the above peripheral map data (Map2.gif,Map3.gif,Map4.gif) in prior (from YES route at Step D1 to Steps D2 and D3).

Whereby, the peripheral map data (Map4.gif) which has been the ninth in the original order of prefetching becomes the fourth in the new order of prefetching so that URL (<http://server/Map4.gif>) is generated in prior by the URL generating unit 74 following a demand (URL generation) for the peripheral map data (Map2.gif,Map3.gif) (Step D4). If it is judged at the above Step D1 that there is no necessity of changing the prefetching procedure (in the case where a scroll quantity is minute, or the like), the URL is generated in the order shown by the matrix in FIG. 70(a), for example (from NO route at Step D1 to Steps D3 and D4).

The URL (<http://server/Map4.gif>) is supplied to the retrieving unit 75. The retrieving unit 75 checks whether corresponding peripheral map data (Map4.gif) has been accumulated in the map/town information accumulating unit 62 or not on the basis of the URL (<http://server/Map4.gif>) similarly in the above procedure (Steps C3 through C6) described before with reference to FIG. 66. If the peripheral map data (Map4.gif) has been accumulated in the map/town information accumulating unit 62, the peripheral map data (Map4.gif) in the map/town information accumulating unit 62 is displayed as it is on the display screen 63. If the peripheral map data (Map4.gif) is not accumulated in the map/town information accumulating unit 62, the URL (<http://server/Map4.gif>) is transmitted (transferred) to the terminal-side proxy 40B (Step A28 in FIG. 63).

In the terminal-side proxy 40B, the caching unit 66 judges (a cache judgement) whether the demanded peripheral map data (Map4.gif) has been accumulated in the terminal-side accumulating unit 40C or not on the basis of the received URL (<http://server/Map4.gif>), similarly to the procedure (Steps B1 through B8) described with reference to FIG. 65. If the peripheral map data (Map4.gif) has been accumulated in the terminal-side accumulating unit 40C, the caching unit 66 takes out the peripheral map data (Map4.gif) from the terminal-side accumulating unit 40C, and delivers it to the service program 401 (the prefetching unit 66) (from Step A28 to Step A33 in FIG. 63).

The prefetching unit 66 receives the above peripheral map data (Map4.gif) by the HTML receiving unit 77, and accumulates and stores it in the map/town information accumulating unit 62.

If the demanded map data (Map4.gif) is not accumulated in the terminal-side accumulating unit 40C, the URL transmitting unit 78 transfers the received URL (http://server/Map4.gif) as it is to the Web server 51' of the information center 5 (Step A29 in FIG. 63).

In the information center 5, the Web server 51' (CGI program 61) retrieves corresponding map data (Map4.gif) in the map information database 52a on the basis of the received URL (http://server/Map4.gif) and takes it out from the map information database 52a (Steps A30 and A31 in FIG. 63), and sends back the map data (Map4.gif) to the terminal-side proxy 40B (Step A32 in FIG. 63). The terminal-side proxy 40B accumulates the received map data (Map4.gif) in the terminal-side accumulating unit 40C by the HTML accumulating unit 82 in the caching unit 66 (Step A33 in FIG. 63). (Kimoto, column 62, lines 6 - column 63, line 41)

The evidence shows that Kimoto does not disclose “*a valid zone indicator indicating a range relative to the geographical coordinates in which the geographically-dependent content will be displayed on the mobile client,*” as recited in Applicant’s amended claim 1.

The grounds of rejection further cite to Kimoto Col. 38, Line 62- Col. 39, Line 4 as allegedly disclosing “wherein the area is customized in size according to the geographically dependent content” (Office Action, page 2). Instead, the evidence shows that Kimoto discusses that “[i]f the user does not actually know where a shop or facility that the user wants to register as above locates on the map displayed on the LCD 47-1 of the mobile terminal 4, **the user** displays the map divided into meshes by dotted line on the LCD 47-1 as shown in FIG. 25, for example, and **designates a region in which the store or facility that the user wants to register** would be included (a region indicated by an arrow in FIG. 25 if the user knows that it locates at a railroad station or in the vicinity of the railroad station, for example), thereby designating the position” (column 38, line 62-column 39, line 4; emphasis added). This discussion in Kimoto of a user designation where on a map to register a store or facility does not disclose a “*range [that]*

is customized in size by the server according to the geographical coordinates and the geographically-dependent content,” as recited in Applicant’s amended claim 1.

Thus, if the mobile user queries for a nearest McDonald’s restaurant and the mobile user is in Manhattan, both the location of the user (e.g. geographical coordinates) and the response to the query (e.g. geographically-dependent content) are used by a server to customize the range of “valid” content to be displayed on the user device. In this example, the range may be half a block, whereas a user searching for a gas station in Wyoming may receive results based on a range of miles.

As agreed during the interview, each and every feature of amended claim 1 is not disclosed, and therefore Kimoto does not anticipate Applicant’s amended claim 1. Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the §102 rejection and a notice of allowance.

Claim 4

Without conceding the propriety of the stated rejections, and only to advance the prosecution of this application, Applicant amends independent claim 4 to clarify further features of the subject matter.

Independent claim 4 recites a computer-readable storage medium having stored thereon a hyperlink browser program, the hyperlink browser program being executable by a mobile computer to perform steps comprising:

- accepting a designation of hyperlinked content from a user;
- obtaining current geographical coordinates of the mobile computer from a global positioning receiver associated with the mobile computer;
- in response to user designation of hyperlinked content, sending a Hypertext Transfer Protocol (HTTP) request to a hyperlinked content network over a wireless transmission medium;
- and

including the current geographical coordinates of the mobile computer in a header of the HTTP request; and
receiving and rendering a geographically-dependent content from the hyperlinked content network as a result of the HTTP request, the geographically-dependent content including *a valid zone specification that is returned to the hyperlink browser program indicating a range relative to the geographical coordinates in which the geographically-dependent content is considered valid*, wherein *the range is customized in size according to the current geographical coordinates and the geographically-dependent content.*

Applicant respectfully submits that no such computer-readable storage medium is disclosed by Kimoto.

Independent claim 4 is amended similar to independent claim 1 and therefore Kimoto does not anticipate amended claim 4 for at least the same reasons as agreed with respect to amended claim 1. Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the §102 rejection and a notice of allowance.

Claim 10

Without conceding the propriety of the stated rejections, and only to advance the prosecution of this application, Applicant amends independent claim 10 to clarify further features of the subject matter.

Independent claim 10 recites a mobile information system comprising:

a mobile client running a mobile hyperlink browser to communicate with one or more remote servers, wherein a geographically-dependent hyperlinked content is available from the servers;

wherein the mobile hyperlink browser sends resource requests to the servers;

wherein *a header of a resource request from the mobile hyperlink browser includes geographical coordinates indicating a current location of the mobile client;*

wherein the servers return geographically-dependent content having *a valid zone specification indicating a geographical zone within which the geographically-dependent content is displayed by the mobile hyperlink browser*, wherein *the geographical zone is customized in size by the one or more remote servers according to the current location of the mobile client and the geographically-dependent content*; and

wherein the mobile hyperlink browser invalidates geographically-dependent content when the mobile client leaves the geographical zone specified by the valid zone specification.

Applicant respectfully submits that no such mobile information system is disclosed by Kimoto.

Independent claim 10 is amended similar to independent claim 1 and therefore Kimoto does not anticipate amended claim 10 for at least the same reasons as agreed with respect to amended claim 1. Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the §102 rejection and a notice of allowance.

Claim 13

Without conceding the propriety of the stated rejections, and only to advance the prosecution of this application, Applicant amends independent claim 13 to clarify further features of the subject matter.

Independent claim 13 recites a mobile information system comprising:

a computer;

a wireless communications interface that provides communications between the computer and a remote server over a wireless communications medium;

a hyperlink browser that executes on the computer, the hyperlink browser sending resource requests to the remote server over the wireless communications medium;

a positioning receiver that generates varying geographical coordinates indicating a varying location of the computer;

wherein *the hyperlink browser includes the varying geographical coordinates in a header of at least some of the resource requests*;

wherein the remote server returns a valid zone specification in conjunction with a returned geographically-dependent content, *the valid zone specification indicating a geographical zone around the varying geographical coordinates within which the returned geographically-dependent content is displayed by the hyperlink browser, the geographical zone customized in size by the remote server according to the varying geographical coordinates and the geographically-dependent content*; and

wherein the hyperlink browser invalidates returned geographically-dependent content when the computer leaves the geographical zone specified for that returned geographically-dependent content.

Applicant respectfully submits that no such a mobile information system is disclosed by Kimoto.

Independent claim 13 is amended similar to independent claim 1 and therefore Kimoto does not anticipate amended claim 13 for at least the same reasons as agreed with respect to amended claim 1. Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the §102 rejection and a notice of allowance.

Claim 16

Without conceding the propriety of the stated rejections, and only to advance the prosecution of this application, Applicant amends independent claim 16 to clarify further features of the subject matter.

Independent claim 16 recites a hyperlink browsing system comprising:

a plurality of servers that provide a geographically-dependent hyperlinked content on a wide-area network;

a plurality of mobile clients that communicate with the wide-area network over a wireless communications medium, each mobile client having a varying location, a positioning receiver that generates varying geographical coordinates indicating the varying location of the mobile client, and a hyperlink browser that is responsive to user designations of hyperlinked content to send an HTTP request to servers and to render content that is returned in response to the HTTP request;

wherein a header of the HTTP request includes current geographical coordinates of the mobile client;

wherein the servers select and return different geographically-dependent content to the hyperlink browser in response to the HTTP request depending on the geographical coordinates in the HTTP request;

*wherein the servers returns a valid zone specification in conjunction with a returned geographically-dependent content, **the valid zone specification indicating a geographical zone around the current geographical coordinates of the mobile client within which the returned geographically-dependent content is displayed on the mobile client, the geographical zone customized in size by a one or more the servers according to the current geographical coordinates of the mobile client and the geographically-dependent content.***

Applicant respectfully submits that no such hyperlink browsing system is disclosed by Kimoto.

Independent claim 16 is amended similar to independent claim 1 and therefore Kimoto does not anticipate amended claim 16 for at least the same reasons as agreed with respect to amended claim 1. Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the §102 rejection and a notice of allowance.

Claim 17

Without conceding the propriety of the stated rejections, and only to advance the prosecution of this application, Applicant amends independent claim 17 to clarify further features of the subject matter.

Independent claim 17 recites a hyperlink browsing system comprising:

a plurality of servers that provide hyperlinked content on a wide-area network, wherein at least some of the hyperlinked content is geographically-dependent;

a plurality of mobile clients that communicate with the wide-area network over a wireless communications medium, the mobile clients having varying locations;

the mobile clients having positioning receivers that generate varying geographical coordinates indicating the varying locations of the mobile clients;

the mobile clients having hyperlink browsers that are responsive to user designations of hyperlinked content to send HTTP requests to servers and to render content that is returned in response to the HTTP requests;

wherein the hyperlink browser of a particular mobile client includes current geographical coordinates of that mobile client in HTTP requests;

wherein the servers select and return different geographically-dependent content to the hyperlink browsers in response to the HTTP requests depending on the geographical coordinates in the HTTP requests;

wherein the servers return valid zone specifications in conjunction with a returned geographically-dependent content, *the valid zone specifications indicating geographical zones within which the returned geographically-dependent content is displayed on the mobile client*; and

wherein *the geographical zones are customized in size by a one or more of the servers according to the current geographical coordinates of the mobile client and the geographically-dependent content.*

Applicant respectfully submits that no such hyperlink browsing system is disclosed by Kimoto.

Independent claim 17 is amended similar to independent claim 1 and therefore Kimoto does not anticipate amended claim 17 for at least the same reasons as agreed with respect to amended claim 1. Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the §102 rejection and a notice of allowance.

Claims 2-3, 5-8, 12, 15, 18, 20, and 22

Applicant cancels **dependent claims 6-8** without prejudice, waiver, or disclaimer of the subject matter, and thus, the rejection is now moot. Applicant previously canceled **dependent claim 20** without prejudice, waiver, or disclaimer of the subject matter.

Dependent claims 2-3, 5, 12, 15, 18, and 22, depend directly or indirectly from one of independent claims 1, 4, 10, 13, and 17, respectively, and thus are allowable as depending from an allowable base claim. These claims are also allowable for their own recited features that, in combination with those recited in claims 1, 4, 10, 13, and 17, are not disclosed by Kimoto. Applicant respectfully requests consideration of each dependent claim.

Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the §102 rejections and a notice of allowance.

Claim Rejections 35 U.S.C. §103 A, B, and C

A. Claims 9 and 21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kimoto et al. (US 6,115,611) (“Kimoto”) in view of Izawa (US 5,471,205) (“Izawa”). Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection.

As explained above with respect to the rejection under §102, Applicant submits that Kimoto fails to disclose the features of independent claims 4 and 17. **Dependent claims 9 and 21** depend from independent claims 4 and 17 respectively, and thus, are allowable as depending from allowable base claims. Izawa fails to compensate for the deficiencies identified in Kimoto with respect to independent claims 4 and 17. According, Kimoto and Izawa taken alone or in combination (assuming for the sake of argument they can be combined) fail to disclose, teach, or suggest all the elements of Applicant’s claims 9 and 21. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the §103 rejection.

B. Claim 19 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kimoto et al. (US 6,115,611) in view of Schreder (US 5,504,482) (“Schreder”). Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection.

As explained above with respect to the rejection under §102, Applicant submits that Kimoto fails to disclose the features of independent claim 17. **Dependent claim 19** depends from independent claim 17, and thus, is allowable as depending from an allowable base claim. Schreder fails to compensate for the deficiencies identified in Kimoto with respect to independent claim 17. According, Kimoto and Schreder taken alone or in combination (assuming for the sake of argument they can be combined) fail to disclose, teach, or suggest all the elements of Applicant’s claim 19. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the §103 rejection.

C. Claims 23 and 24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kimoto et al. (US 6,115,611) (“Kimoto”) in view of DeLorme et al. (US 5,848,373) (“DeLorme”). Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection.

As explained above with respect to the rejection under §102, Applicant submits that Kimoto fails to disclose the features of independent claim 17. **Dependent claims 23 and 24** depend from independent claim 17, and thus, are allowable as depending from allowable base claims. DeLorme fails to compensate for the deficiencies identified in Kimoto with respect to independent claims 23 and 24. According, Kimoto and DeLorme taken alone or in combination (assuming for the sake of argument they can be combined) fail to disclose, teach, or suggest all the elements of Applicant’s claims 23 and 24. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the §103 rejection.

Conclusion

For at least the foregoing reasons, claims 1-5, 9-10, 12-13, 15-19, and 21-24 are in condition for allowance. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections and an early notice of allowance.

If any issue remains unresolved that would prevent allowance of this case, Applicant requests that the Examiner contact the undersigned attorney to resolve the issue.

Respectfully Submitted,

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